

House Amendment

The House amendment would provide the Secretary with the authority to remove or demote any individual from the SES if the Secretary determines the performance of the individual warrants such removal and requires the Secretary to notify Congress within 30 days of removing or demoting a senior executive under this authority.

Conference Agreement

The Conference substitute generally adopts the Senate provision with an amendment to change the level of review at the MSPB. The substitute requires that the expedited review by the MSPB be conducted by an Administrative Judge at the MSPB, and if the MSPB Administrative Judge does not conclude their review within 21 days then the removal or demotion is final. The substitute does not allow for any further appeal beyond the Administrative Judge, and does not allow for a second level review by the three-person board at the MSPB. The substitute also requires that if the senior executive is removed, and then appeals VA's decision, the senior executive is not entitled to any type of pay, bonus, or benefit while appealing the decision of removal. Furthermore, the substitute requires that if a senior executive is demoted, and then appeals VA's decision, the employee may only receive any type of pay, bonus, or benefit at the rate appropriate for the position they were demoted to, and only if the individual shows up for duty, while appealing the decision of demotion. The substitute requires that the MSPB submit to Congress a plan within 14 days of enactment of how the expedited review would be implemented. The substitute also adds language to include title 38 SES equivalents under this new authority and includes "misconduct" along with "poor performance" as a reason to remove or demote a senior executive.

TITLE VIII—OTHER MATTERS
APPROPRIATION OF AMOUNTS

Current Law

Congress uses an appropriation to provide funding for discretionary spending programs of the Federal government.

Senate Amendment

The Senate amendment would authorize and appropriate for FYs 2014, 2015, and 2016, the emergency funds necessary to carry out this Act.

In addition, the Senate amendment would make available, at the end of FYs 2014 and 2015, unobligated balances in VA's medical care accounts (medical services, medical support and compliance, and medical facilities) for the hiring of additional health care professionals.

House Amendment

The House amendment contained no similar provision.

Conference Agreement

The Conference substitute authorizes and appropriates \$5 billion to increase veterans access to care through the hiring of physicians and other medical staff and by improving VA's physical infrastructure.

VETERANS CHOICE FUND

Current Law

There is no provision of law establishing a Veterans Choice Fund.

Senate Amendment

The Senate amendment contained no similar provision.

House Amendment

The House amendment contained no similar provision.

Conference Agreement

The Conference substitute establishes in the Treasury a fund to be known as the Vet-

erans Choice Fund to carry out the expanded availability of hospital care and medical services for veterans created by section 101 of the Conference substitute. The Conference substitute also authorizes and appropriates \$10 billion for deposit in the Veterans Choice Fund.

EMERGENCY DESIGNATIONS

Current Law

Congress may exempt the budgetary effects of a provision from certain enforcement procedures by designating it as an emergency requirement. An emergency designation causes the spending and revenue effects estimated to result from such bills as exempt for purposes of enforcing budget procedures.

Senate Amendment

The Senate amendment would designate this Act as an emergency requirement under the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 and the Concurrent Resolution on the budget for FY 2010.

House Amendment

The House amendment contained no similar provision.

Conference Agreement

The Conference substitute adopts the Senate provision.

JEFF MILLER,
DOUG LAMBORN,
DAVID P. ROE,
BILL FLORES,
DAN BENISHEK,
MIKE COFFMAN,
BRAD R. WENSTRUP,
JACKIE WALORSKI,
MICHAEL H. MICHAUD,
CORRINE BROWN,
MARK TAKANO,
JULIA BROWNLEY,
ANN KIRKPATRICK,
TIMOTHY J. WALZ,

Managers on the part of the House.

BERNARD SANDERS,
JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER IV,
PATTY MURRAY,
SHERROD BROWN,
JON TESTER,
MARK BEGICH,
RICHARD BLUMENTHAL,
MAZIE K. HIRONO,
RICHARD BURR,
JOHNNY ISAKSON,
MIKE JOHANNIS,
JOHN MCCAIN,
TOM COBURN,
MARCO RUBIO,

Managers on the part of the Senate.

COMPLIANCE WITH RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE REGARDING EARMARKS AND CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING ITEMS

Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives and rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, neither this Conference report nor the accompanying joint statement of Conferees contains any congressional earmarks, congressionally directed spending items, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits, as defined in such rules.

For consideration of the House amendment and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference:

JEFF MILLER of Florida,
DOUG LAMBORN,
DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee,
BILL FLORES,
DAN BENISHEK,
MIKE COFFMAN,
BRAD R. WENSTRUP,
JACKIE WALORSKI,
MICHAEL H. MICHAUD,

CORRINE BROWN of Florida,
MARK TAKANO,
JULIA BROWNLEY of
California,
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JOHNNY ISAKSON,
MIKE JOHANNIS,

Managers on the part of the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under clause 8 of rule XXII, the filing of the conference report on H.R. 3230 has vitiated the motion to instruct offered by the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL), which was debated on July 25, 2014, and on which further proceedings were postponed.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. CULBERSON (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of family obligations.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 3212. An act to ensure compliance with the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction by countries with which the United States enjoys reciprocal obligations, to establish procedures for the prompt return of children abducted to other countries, and for other purposes.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 517. An act to promote consumer choice and wireless competition by permitting consumers to unlock mobile wireless devices, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 28 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, July 29, 2014, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows: